



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

21 APRIL 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Lakehead – Two Hurt in Possible Hate-Related Shooting

(U) A Sacramento man is under arrest after a possible hate-related shooting that left two people hurt in Shasta County over the weekend. Detectives believe the suspect, Sacramento resident Silas Matthew Hesselberg, 21, approached a group of people at a boat ramp for no apparent reason. Hesselberg allegedly called one of the victims a racial slur, then pulled out a handgun and shot the two people. One of the victims has since been treated and released, but the second victim remained hospitalized in critical condition. A hate crime investigation has now begun into the incident. Hesselberg has been arrested and was booked into Shasta County Jail, facing charges of attempted homicide and a civil rights violation.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [CBS13](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – Governor Sending National Guard to US-Mexico Border

(U) Phoenix – Arizona Governor Doug Ducey has announced the deployment of National Guardsmen to the US-Mexico border to support local law enforcement efforts as the nation experiences a rapid increase in apprehensions and migrant children in federal custody. From April 2020 through February 2021, border apprehensions increased 460%, according to the governor's office. The Arizona National Guard will assist with medical operations, install and monitor border cameras, monitor and collect data from the public safety cameras, and analyze satellite imagery for current trends in smuggling corridors. No specific date has been provided for when the National Guard will be deployed.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [ABC15](#)

(U) Texas – Nearly Two Dozen Arrested in Drug Raids Directly Linked to Mexico

(U) San Antonio – Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officials in the San Antonio district have executed several arrest warrants targeting a drug trafficking group. The group has previously trafficked methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin, with the majority of the narcotics being distributed in the San Antonio region. During this investigation, authorities seized approximately 24-kilograms of methamphetamine, six-kilograms of heroin, three-kilograms of cocaine, four firearms, and approximately \$100,000 along with other assets. While the majority of the 22 arrests were on federal charges, five were arrested on state narcotics charges.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [FOX29](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Chinese Hackers Compromise Dozens of Government Agencies

(U) Washington DC – Sophisticated Chinese government hackers are believed to have compromised dozens of US government agencies, defense contractors, financial institutions and other critical sectors, according to FireEye cybersecurity. The intrusions are ongoing and are the latest in a series of compromises of government agencies and private companies. The investigation is in its early stages but

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already has turned up evidence that the intruders breached sensitive defense companies. That was not the case with the Russian SolarWinds campaign, which compromised nine federal agencies but not the Pentagon or its contractors. The hacking group involved was very advanced in its steps to evade detection. The campaign was targeted, focusing on high-value victims with information of value to the Chinese government.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [Washington Post](#)

(U) District of Columbia – New Justice Department Task Force Will Target Ransomware

(U) Washington DC – The US Justice Department has formed a task force to curtail the proliferation of ransomware cyberattacks, in a bid to make the popular extortion schemes less lucrative by targeting the entire digital ecosystem that supports them. By identifying ransomware as a priority, the task force will increase training and dedicate more resources to the issue, seek to improve intelligence sharing across the department, and work to identify the links between criminal actors and nation-states. The task force will be led by acting Deputy Attorney General John Carlin, who previously ran the Justice Department's national-security division during the Obama administration.

SOURCE: 21 April 2021, [The Wall Street Journal](#)

(U) Florida – \$94 Million Worth of Cocaine Discovered on Boat

(U) Miami – More than 5,500-pounds of cocaine, worth about \$94.6 million, arrived in Miami after US Coast Guard (USCG) crews on Tuesday found the drugs aboard a boat near Colombia. Crew members from the USCG Cutter Tampa, which is based in Portsmouth Virginia, offloaded 87 bales in Miami Beach and turned them over to Homeland Security. According to USCG, a vessel was spotted on 9 April by a maritime patrol flight in the waters near Punta Gallinas, Columbia. The law enforcement team from the cutter responded and detained three suspects, who were reportedly in good condition. USCG later sank the vessel so it would not be a hazard to navigation.

SOURCE: 21 April 2021, [The Miami Herald](#)

(U) New York – Suspect in Custody After Shooting at Stop & Shop Supermarket

(U) West Hempstead – Police have arrested the suspect accused of going into a Stop & Shop in West Hempstead and opening fire, killing one and wounding two. Nassau County authorities say 31-year-old Gabriel Dewitt Wilson showed up for work Tuesday and went straight to an office on the second floor, shooting a male and a female victim with "a small handgun." He then went to a second office where he shot and killed one of the managers of the building. Wilson was an employee at the Stop & Shop as a cart collector in the parking lot. Wilson had a prior mental aided case with Nassau County police. In 2006, he was arrested for assault in Baltimore County.

SOURCE: 21 April 2021, [ABC7](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – 30 Arrested in Connection to International Drug Operation

(U) Toronto – The Canadian police, after an almost yearlong operation, have broken up an international drug operation by arresting more than 30 persons. Police began working on an operation to stop an international drug network in Canada. Between 8 and 19 April, police in Ontario, British Columbia, and California carried out more than 50 search warrants and seized about \$2.3 million worth of drugs, including heroin and ketamine, and 48 firearms, and a large amount of Canadian money. The drug haul included 10-kg cocaine, 8-kg ketamine, 3-kg heroin and 2.5-kg opium. The agencies are hoping a follow-up investigation will lead to the arrest of a number of international smugglers based out of Canada, Italy, and Australia who are wanted by security agencies in India.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [Tribune India](#)

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(U) Chad – Rebels Threaten to Depose Son of Recently Deceased President

(U) N'Djamena – Rebels in Chad threatened to depose the son of the country's slain president after he was named interim leader of the strategic central African nation, raising the specter Wednesday of a potentially violent power struggle. The rebel group that the military blamed for President Idriss Deby Itno's killing said late Tuesday that its forces were "heading toward N'Djamena at this very moment." Deby was a major French ally in the fight against Islamic extremism in Africa, hosting the base for the French military's Operation Barkhane and supplying critical troops to the peacekeeping effort in northern Mali. With President Deby's death and the recent instability, peacekeeping efforts may be upended in the region.

SOURCE: 21 April 2021, [AP News](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Atomwaffen Division to be Proscribed as Terrorist Organization

(U) London – The United Kingdom (UK) Home Secretary moved to proscribe the Atomwaffen Division (AD), a neo-Nazi group predominately in the US, as a terrorist organization and make membership in it illegal in the UK. Under the proposal, membership or inviting support in the group would be a criminal offense punishable by up to 10-years in prison. A new law that will shortly receive Royal Assent would lengthen the sentence to 14-years, according to a UK press release. Once approved by parliament, the listing of AD is expected to come into effect later this week. While AD formally disbanded and reformed as the National Socialist Order (NSO), the UK will plan to list NSO as an alias of AD.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [Kharon](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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